n and m independently represent 0 or 1, and Xaa is V or L;

X1 and X2 are independently defined as follows

X1 is GVKETPQQKYQRLLHEVQELTT (SEQ ID NO: 3), or

VKETPQQKYQRLLHEVQELTT (SEQ ID NO: 4), or

KETPQQKYQRLLHEVQELTT (SEQ ID NO: 5) or,

ETPQQKYQRLLHEVQELTT (SEQ ID NO: 6) or,

TPQQKYQRLLHEVQELTT (SEQ ID NO: 7) or,

PQQKYQRLLHEVQELTT (SEQ ID NO: 8) or,

QQKYQRLLHEVQELTT (SEQ ID NO: 9) or,

QKYQRLLHEVQELTT (SEQ ID NO: 10) or,

KYQRLLHEVQELTT (SEQ ID NO: 11) or,

YQRLLHEVQELTT (SEQ ID NO:12) or,

QRLLHEVQELTT (SEQ ID NO: 13) or,

RLLHEVQELTT (SEQ ID NO: 14) or,

LLHEVQELTT (SEQ ID NO: 15) or,

LHEVQELTT (SEQ ID NO: 16) or,

HEVQELTT (SEQ ID NO: 17) or,

EVQELTT (SEQ ID NO: 18) or,

VQELTT (SEQ ID NO: 19) or,

QELTT (SEQ ID NO: 20) or,

ELTT (SEQ ID NO: 21), or

LTT, or

TT, or

T;

and

X2 is AKQLAAL (SEQ ID NO: 22), or

AKQLAA (SEQ ID NO: 23), or

AKQLA (SEQ ID NO: 24), or

AKQL (SEQ ID NO: 25), or

AKQ, or

AK, or

A;

and

Y1 and Y2 are independently defined as follows

Y1 is GEKETPVQKCQRLQIEMNELLN (SEQ ID NO: 26), or

EKETPVQKCQRLQIEMNELLN (SEQ ID NO: 27), or

KETPVQKCQRLQIEMNELLN (SEQ ID NO: 28), or

ETPVQKCQRLQIEMNELLN (SEQ ID NO: 29), or

TPVQKCQRLQIEMNELLN (SEQ ID NO: 30), or

PVQKCQRLQIEMNELLN (SEQ ID NO: 31), or

VQKCQRLQIEMNELLN (SEQ ID NO: 32), or

QKCQRLQIEMNELLN (SEQ ID NO: 33), or

KCQRLQIEMNELLN (SEQ ID NO: 34), or

CQRLQIEMNELLN (SEQ ID NO: 35), or

QRLQIEMNELLN (SEQ ID NO: 36), or

RLQIEMNELLN (SEQ ID NO: 37), or

LQIEMNELLN (SEQ ID NO: 38), or

QIEMNELLN (SEQ ID NO: 39), or

IEMNELLN (SEQ ID NO: 40), or

EMNELLN (SEQ ID NO: 41), or

MNELLN (SEQ ID NO: 42), or

NELLN (SEQ ID NO: 43), or

ELLN (SEQ ID NO: 44), or

LLN, or

LN, or

N; and

Y2 is VATVISTAR (SEQ ID NO: 45), or

VATVISTA (SEQ ID NO: 46), or

VATVIST (SEQ ID NO: 47), or

VATVIS (SEQ ID NO: 48), or

VATVI (SEQ ID NO: 49), or

VATV (SEQ ID NO: 50), or

VAT, or

VA, or

V, and

derivatives thereof having at least about 90% identity with SEEQ ID NO: 1 or SEQ ID NO: 2.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 31, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--In a preferred embodiment, the peptide has one of the following sequences: GVKETPQQKYQRLLHEVQELTTEVEKIKTTVKESATEEKLTPVXaaLAKQLAAL (SEQ ID NO: 51), where Xaa is as defined above, or

GEKETPVQKCQRLQIEMNELLNEVAALQVDRKVADEEKQSYDAVVATVISTAR (SEQ ID NO: 52), or has at least about 75%, preferably at least about 80%, more preferably at least about 85%, even more preferably at least about 90%, most preferably at least about 95% identity with one of these sequences. Preferably, the peptide variants contain only conservative amino acid substitutions compared to the reference peptide sequences.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 4, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Figure 1 is the amino acid sequence of human p50 (SEQ ID NO: 53), wherein the peptide of SEQ ID NO: 51 (Xaa is L) is bolded and underlined.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 6, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- Figure 2 is the partial amino acid sequence of mouse p50 (SEQ ID NO: 54), wherein the peptide of SEQ ID NO: 51 (Xaa is V) is bolded and underlined.--

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims to read as follows: